

The Honorable James Marleau
Chair, Senate Committee on Health Policy
Michigan Senate
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909

April 25th, 2014

Senate Bill 879

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to request your strong support of the recently introduced Senate Bill No. 879. As a practicing radiologist in the mid-Michigan medical community, I have seen the profound limitations that dense breast tissue can have on the correct diagnosis of breast cancer in many women.

In these women, mammography is a far less effective cancer screening tool than in those with lower breast density. Dense breast tissue is also recognized as an independent risk factor for breast cancer. Sadly, current Public Health Code regulations do not require that women be notified, even after greater than average breast density has been recognized on their mammograms.

With currently available technology that can provide the necessary additional screening in these women, including breast MRI and ultrasound, it is unconscionable that care providers are not presently required to notify these women of the risk they face. In order to give women these women a fair chance at early detection and treatment of breast cancer, it is imperative that Michigan Senate Bill No. 879 be passed. Thank you for your support of this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

John S. Morrison, D.O.
(Electronic Signature)

Regional Medical Imaging
3346 Lennon Rd
Flint, MI 48507
jmorrison@rmipc.net